

John T. Sullivan to Andrew Jackson, August 14, 1833, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JOHN T. SULLIVAN TO JACKSON.

Confidential for the present

Philadelphia, August 14, 1833.

Dear General, The “examination” to which you directed the attention of the Govt. Directors, was commenced yesterday morning and was persevered in untill 3 Oclock in the afternoon, during which time, all the Govt Directors were employed in taking extracts and copying bills and vouchers. This examination would have commenced earlier but it was deemed prudent to have all of our little band present, for the double purpose of keeping each other in countenance if not in spirits, and also to give Our Report the most imposing aspect.

The examination has resulted in exhibiting a much longer and a much blacker Catalogue of “fair business transactions” than I had anticipated. In a little more then two years, about \$60,000 Dollars have been expended in *printing* , and publishing speeches, Tracks etc; of which, about \$25,000 was paid to the Order of Mr. Bidd[!]e, upon his own drafts on the BK—for one dollar of which, *no voucher* could be procured, although they were required of the Cashier, who stated the money was paid to Mr. Biddle under *an order* of the Board in 1833. This “*order*” we have copied. These I have no doubt form but a small portion of the money expended for electioneering purposes, and are entirely independent of fictitious loans. We have taken detailed extracts, of every thing; and shall make a formal report early in the Week, if not on *Saterday* . We intend making an attempt to *recind* the

Library of Congress

resolution, under which, the “ *Secret Service Money*”, was authorised to be drawn by Mr. Biddle, on Friday next.

Knowing the deep interest you have taken in this question, I have deemed it proper to give you this short history of our proceedings so far; and at the same time to assure you, that all of those who have the honour to represent the Government, were prompt, faithful and decided in carrying your request into effect, (always of course excepting myself). When you shall have read the detailed list of items, you will be astonished, how freely they expended the funds placed at their disposal for Other Purposes. And all this done, without the Knowledge of the Board, Since I have been a member of it.

With great Respect and Esteem I have the honour to be

[*Indorsement in Jackson's handwriting:*] recd. 19th august. Mr. Sullivan, on the Bank expence account. \$60,000 expended for writing in support of the Bank and in abuse of the President. A. J.

an extract taken and sent to Mr. V. B. on the 20th august. A. J.